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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND OFF
HALL DRIVE,
PLOTS 145 - 156,
SWINESHEAD,
LINCOLNSHIRE.
(SWHD00)**



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL
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SERVICES

Conservation
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31 MAY 2002

Highways & Planning
Directorate



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Source L17775
L17776

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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ON LAND OFF
HALL DRIVE,
PLOTS 145 - 156,
SWINESHEAD,
LINCOLNSHIRE.
(SWHD00)**

Work Undertaken For
Jelson Limited

May 2002

Report Compiled by
Steve Thomson BSc (Hons) PIFA

National Grid Reference: TF 2400 4040
Planning Reference: B/00/0528/00
City and County Museum Accession No. 2000.327

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170m x 100

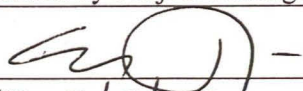
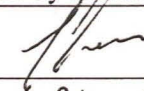
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



APS Report No. 84/02

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during residential development on land at Hall Drive, Swineshead, Lincolnshire, as the site is archaeologically sensitive, lying close to the core of the historic village. Previous investigations immediately south of the present development area revealed numerous medieval ditches and pits.

During the course of the investigation medieval industrial activity, in the form of iron smithing, and domestic occupation was identified in the general area, in the form of midden pits and domestic refuse. A moderate assemblage of pottery, predominantly of 12th – 14th century date was recovered along with iron smithing slag, vitrified hearth lining, animal bone and mollusca.

It is postulated that ditches perhaps formed a boundary defining an area in which occupation occurred with the possible location of a workshop suggested to the northwest of the site. Abandonment of the site appears to have occurred in the 15th century.

Post-medieval remains comprised pits and a probable ploughsoil, with the site again abandoned during the 17th century and given over to pasture.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as, 'a formal program of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits maybe disturbed or destroyed.'

(IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services (APS) was commissioned by Jelson Limited to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with residential development on land off Hall Drive, Swineshead, Lincolnshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application B/00/0528/00 to Boston Borough Council.

The watching brief was carried out between the 12th January 2001 and 11th May 2001, in accordance with a specification designed by APS (Appendix 1) and approved by the Boston Borough Community Archaeologist.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Swineshead is located in the Boston District of Lincolnshire, approximately 9km southwest of Boston itself (Fig. 1).

The site is on the eastern side of the High Street, just north of Swineshead Hall and approximately 200m north of St. Mary's Church, at National Grid Reference TF 2400 4040 (Fig. 2)

The development area lies on level ground at a height of c.6m OD. Local soils are calcareous fine and coarse silts of the Agney Association (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 87) formed on marine alluvium. These deposits overlie clay and mudstone of the Upper Jurassic Ancholme Group (BGS 1995)

2.4 Archaeological Setting

The earliest archaeological remains recorded in the Swineshead area are of prehistoric date. Two stone axes and pottery of this period have been found in the parish, one of the axes apparently less

than 80m northeast of the present development site. However, some doubt exists as to the exact original provenance of these artefacts.

Romano-British pottery has been found 720m southeast of the present site. Soilmarks of rectangular enclosures and linear features, possibly of Romano-British date, have also been identified elsewhere within the parish.

Investigations carried out during the construction of the Swineshead bypass recorded significant palaeo-environmental information. Radiocarbon dated peat formation to 170-315 cal. AD and 210-370 cal. AD. A subsequent phase of marine transgression, traditionally seen as the reason for the abandonment of fenland settlements, was dated to 315-425 cal. AD and 395-535 cal. AD (Waller 1994, 292-295).

Evidence of early Anglo-Saxon activity has been recorded during a watching brief to the south of the development area (Thomson 2001). An Anglo-Saxon strap end has previously been recorded from the northeastern part of the village.

The earliest reference to Swineshead is in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle in c.675 AD when King Aethelred gave land at Swineshead to the monastery at Peterborough (Garmonsway ed. 1992, 37). The place-name *Swineshaefed* is Old English in origin and refers to, 'the source of the creek' (Cameron 1998, 122).

A focus of late Saxon activity has been identified to the north of the village. A 10th to 11th century pit was recorded during a watching brief at North End (Moulis 1996). Field boundary ditches of contemporary and mid Saxon date were recorded during an evaluation slightly further to the south (Albone 1999).

Swineshead is not mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086, although the settlements of Drayton and Estevening, which lay in the parish, are recorded (Morris 1986).

During the medieval period, Swineshead was an important market town with charters for two annual fairs (Platts 1985). The remains of two medieval crosses survive in the centre of the village. The Church of St Mary the Virgin lies 200m to the south of the site and forms the probable focus of the medieval settlement.

Medieval remains have been recorded by a number of investigations around the development area and during earlier phases of the current development (Albone 2000; Cope-Faulkner 2000; Hambly 2000; Rayner 2001, Thomson 2001). These investigations have helped to define the extent of the medieval town.

Important medieval remains within the parish, but located away from the village, include the site of Swineshead Abbey to the east and the Manwarings earthwork to the north.

Understanding of the post-medieval development of the settlement is hindered by the absence of any detailed maps of its core area dating to before the late 19th century

3. AIMS

The aim of the watching brief, as detailed in the specification (Appendix 1), was to record and interpret archaeological features exposed during the ground disturbance. The objectives were to determine the form, function, spatial arrangement, date and sequence of any archaeological remains.

4. METHODS

Foundation trenches were excavated using a mechanical excavator fitted with a 0.65m wide, toothed bucket, to variable depths of up to 1.25m as required by the development.

The exposed sections of the trenches were inspected and hand cleaned at close intervals and the bases hoed to identify archaeological remains. Spoil heaps were monitored and searched by trowel to recover artefactual material which may have assisted with the interpretation of the site. The depth and thickness of each deposit was measured from the ground surface.

Each deposit or feature revealed was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A photographic record was compiled depicting the setting of the site, section drawings and recorded features. Sections were drawn at scales of 1:10 and 1:20 and their locations plotted on annotated sketch and scale plans.

Recording of the deposits encountered during the watching brief was undertaken according to standard APS' practice.

Records of the deposits and features identified during the watching brief were examined. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them, supplemented by artefact analysis (Appendix 3).

A summary of all contexts, with interpretations, appears as Appendix 2.

Contexts are described below with the numbers assigned in the field shown in bold and brackets.

5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis, five phases were identified;

- 5.1 Phase 1 - Natural deposits
- 5.2 Phase 2 - Undated deposits
- 5.3 Phase 3 - Medieval deposits
- 5.4 Phase 4 - Post-medieval deposits
- 5.5 Phase 5 - Modern deposits

5.1 Phase 1 - Natural deposits

The earliest deposits encountered during the course of the watching brief comprised a series of light-mid yellowish brown, light greyish brown and light brown fine sands and silts (**005, 028, 034, 039, 051, 055, 062, 065, 067, 070, 082, 087, 089, 098, 103, 104, 109, 110**) identified as naturally deposited alluvium.

5.2 Phase 2 - Undated deposits

Within Plot 157, an indeterminate shaped cut (**007**), measuring at least 2.6m northeast-southwest and 0.76m deep was interpreted as a pit (Fig.6 – Section 2). The pit was filled with a mid-dark grey silty sand (**006**) containing moderate mussel shell.

Also within Plot 157, a cut of unknown extent but measuring 3.3m wide northwest-southeast and 0.84m deep (**014**) was identified as a pit (Fig.7 – Section 5). The pit was filled with a mid-grey silty sand (**013**). A fragment of cattle femur was retrieved from (**013**).

To the east in Plot 158, a probable circular cut (**022**) (Plate 2), 1.35m diameter, was also identified as a pit (Fig.7 – Section 6). The pit contained a primary fill of mottled brown and light yellowish brown clayey silt (**029**). Sealing this was a light greyish brown clayey silt containing occasional gravel and charcoal fragments and frequent mussel shell (**025**).

Located towards the southeast corner of the site in Plot 146, a ditch (038) (Fig.8 – Section 12), 1.6m wide and greater than 11m long was observed running northeast-southwest. The ditch was filled with a mid-greyish brown silt containing occasional small stones and shells (037). Mollusca recovered from (037) (Appendix 3) indicate that the deposit was laid down in standing water and would support the interpretation of the cut as a ditch, probably for drainage.

Cutting the alluvium in Plot 146 were two sub-circular cuts (041, 042) (Fig.8 – Sections 13 & 15) interpreted as pits. Pit (041) contained a primary fill of mottled blue-grey and brown silty sand (048) containing shell and charcoal fragments. This was sealed by a mid-reddish brown silty sand (047). The second pit was filled with a dark brown silty sand (052) containing frequent mussel shell and occasional charcoal fragments.

Also located in Plot 146 was a 100mm thick, dark grey to mid-brown silty sand (050) (Fig.8 – Section 16) containing occasional shell and charcoal fragments. Overlying (050) was a mid-brown silty sand (049). Both deposits were observed extending over 3m east-west and were interpreted as refuse spreads.

5.3 Phase 3 – Medieval deposits

An indeterminate shaped cut (002) (Fig. 6 – Section 1) was located towards the northwest edge of Plot 157. The feature was 0.49m deep and was interpreted as a pit. The pit was filled with a light bluish grey silty sand (003) and a secondary fill of mid-grey silty sand (001) containing occasional charcoal flecks. Two sherds of 11-12th century Stamford ware were recovered from (001).

Also within Plot 157 an indeterminate shaped feature (012) (Fig.7 – Section 4) measuring at least 5m north-south and

0.56m deep was interpreted as a probable natural hollow. The hollow had been infilled with a mid-dark grey silty sand (011) containing moderate charcoal flecks. Pottery of 12th – 13th century date together with a fragment of ceramic building material was recovered from (011).

Two midden pits (016, 020/024) were recorded in Plot 158 (Fig.5) Pit (016) (Plate 1) was rectangular in shape and measured 1.5m x 1.4m and was oriented northeast-southwest. The pit was filled with a light brown clayey silt (015) containing occasional shell fragments. Pottery of 12th – 14th century date was recovered from (015) together with animal bone, an iron nail, vitrified hearth lining, vesicular and iron smithing slag.

Possibly truncating (016) (Fig.8 – Section 9), pit (018) was rectangular in shape and measured 2m x 1.8m, with the longer axis oriented east-west. The pit was filled with light brown clayey silt (017) containing frequent charcoal fragments, occasional mussel shell, gravel and patches of burnt soil. Pottery of the 12th – 14th centuries, animal bone, an iron nail, iron smithing slag and probable vitrified hearth lining were recovered from (017).

A sub-circular cut (024) located in Plot 158 was identified as a midden pit. The pit measured 3.08m north-south, was greater than 0.65m east-west and 0.88m deep and was filled with a dark grey clayey silt (023) containing frequent shell and charcoal fragments. Pottery of 13th – 14th century date was recovered from (023) together with animal bone, cockle shells, an iron nail, smithing slag and fired clay.

A further cut, (020) was recorded on the opposite side of the trench baulk to (024) (Fig.7 – Sections 7 & 8) and probably represented the south-western extent of the pit. Cut (020) truncated the eastern edge of (018) (Fig. 8 – Section 9) and was filled with a mid-brown clayey silt containing

frequent charcoal and occasional shell fragments. Pottery of 12th – 14th century date, iron smithing slag and fired clay was recovered from (019).

Within Plot 146 (Fig.8 – Section 13) a sub-circular cut (040) with an approximate diameter of 0.78m and 0.38m deep was identified as a refuse pit. The pit contained a primary fill of bluish grey silty sand (046) sealed by a mottled reddish brown silty sand (045). A sherd of a Late Saxon storage jar of 9th – 11th century date and a fragment of baked silt with wattle impressions was recovered from (046), though the Saxon sherd is likely to have been residual.

Towards the northern edge of the site in Plot 152, a linear cut (074) (Plate 4, Fig.10 – Section 22)) was identified as a ditch. The ditch measured 4.1m wide, greater than 11m long and 0.6m deep and was oriented east-west. An upper fill of mid-brown silt (073) yielded pottery of 12th – 14th century date.

Towards the northeast corner of the site in Plot 151, a linear feature (084) (Fig.10 – Section 24) measuring at least 3m east-west and 3.5m north-south was identified as a ditch. The ditch was filled with a mid-dark brown silt (083) containing occasional charcoal and shell fragments. Pottery of the 13th – 15th centuries, animal bone and fired clay was retrieved from (083).

Also located in Plot 152 a heavily truncated cut (098a) was interpreted as a probable pit (Fig.10 – Section 23). The pit was filled with a mid-yellowish brown silt (080, 098b) containing charcoal and burnt soil, and a mid-yellowish brown silt (098c) containing charcoal and shell fragments. Pottery of 12th – 14th century date was recovered from (080).

Within Plot 155, a series of silts was identified as dumped deposits (Fig.10 –

Sections 28, 29). A mottled light to mid reddish brown clayey silt containing occasional charcoal fragments (094, 097) was identified in the northeast and southwest of the plot. Underlying this in the southwest of the plot was a firm, dark greyish black silt (095) containing frequent cockle shells, 100mm thick and extending 5.6m north-south. This layer sealed a firm, light grey silt (096) containing occasional charcoal fragments which was observed over 10m north-south and 1.5m east-west. A sherd of 11th – 12th century date pottery and an iron nail were recovered from (095) and iron smithing slag from (097).

5.4 Phase 4 – Post-medieval deposits

A steep sided cut (010) (Fig. 6 – Section 3) in Plot 157 was interpreted as a pit. The exposed area of the pit measured at least 1.4m wide and 1.08m deep. The earliest visible fill of the pit comprised a mid-red silty clay (009) containing frequent charcoal fragments, sealed by a dark reddish brown silty sand (008). A sherd of 16th-17th century Bourne pottery and animal bone was recovered from (009) and animal bone from (008).

In Plot 159 a feature with steeply sloping sides (033) measuring 0.73m wide and 0.46m deep was interpreted as a probable pit. The feature was filled with a brown clayey silt (032) containing occasional tiny fired clay, shell and charcoal fragments. A sherd of pottery of the 16th – 17th centuries and oyster shell was retrieved from (032).

In the northeast corner of the site, in Plot 151, an indeterminate shaped cut (081), measuring 1.5m east-west and 0.5m north-south, was interpreted as a probable pit. The pit contained a primary fill of mid-yellowish brown and orangey brown silt (079) overlain by a mid-reddish brown silt (078) and a mid-yellowish brown silt (077). Charcoal, shell and burnt soil fragments were observed in the fills and two sherds of 16th – 17th century pottery,

together with animal bone were recovered from (078). An iron nail was recovered from (079). The feature truncated a medieval pit (098a).

Identified variably across the site was a generally mid-brown, mid-reddish brown to mid-yellowish brown silt subsoil (027, 031, 036, 044, 054, 061, 064, 066, 069 077, 086, 088, 093). Pottery of the 9th – 12th centuries and 16th – 17th centuries was recovered from (064); 12th – 14th century date from (069); 16th – 17th century and 12th – 14th century date from (088) and 12th – 14th century and post-medieval tile from (093). Animal bone and mollusca were also retrieved from the subsoil (Appendix 3) with iron smithing slag recovered from (088).

5.5 Phase 5 – Modern deposits

In Plot 152, an east-west oriented land drain cut was identified (072) filled with a mid-brown silt (071).

In Plot 148, an indeterminate shaped cut (060), measuring at least 1.52m north-south and 0.8m east-west, was interpreted as a pit (Fig.9 – Sections 18 & 19). The pit was filled with a mid-brown and yellow brown silt (059), a dark brown to greyish brown sandy silt (058) and a mixed greyish brown and mid-yellow sand and silt (057). Pottery of 19th – 20th century date was recovered from (058).

Identified across the entire site, a dark greyish brown to dark brown silt and sandy silt (004, 035, 043, 053, 056, 063, 068, 076, 085, 091) formed the topsoil.

The most recent deposits encountered comprised brown gravels and silts (026, 030) and crushed stone (075) that represented made ground related to the construction work taking place on the site.

6. DISCUSSION

Phase 1, natural alluvial deposits are in keeping with sediments identified in Swineshead during previous archaeological investigations. These deposits are likely to represent marine transgression. However, they lie at c. 5.5m OD and therefore must be of a later date than those identified and radiocarbon dated by Waller (1994).

Undated, Phase 2, deposits were represented by pits, a ditch and probable refuse spreads. Several of the undated pits were located towards the southern edge of the site, in an area where medieval pits were identified (Fig. 4). Their proximity to these may suggest a medieval date. Moreover, the nature and similarity of the fills, and the fact that the pits were sealed beneath a post-medieval subsoil layer, further suggests an early date probably contemporary with the medieval pits.

The ditch recorded towards the southeast edge of the site was also sealed beneath a subsoil layer and would suggest a probable medieval date for the feature. Furthermore, mollusca recovered from the fill indicates the presence of standing water around the time that the ditched silted. This may suggest that flooding led to the silting of the ditch. Whilst the full extent of the ditch was not ascertained it may be reasonable to speculate that it served a drainage function and perhaps formed part of an eastern boundary to the site.

The probable refuse spreads observed in Plot 146 were also sealed beneath a subsoil layer and were similar in nature to the pit fills located nearby. A medieval date is also likely here.

The limited scale of excavation precluded the recovery of dateable artefacts but it is highly likely that the majority, if not all of the Phase 2 features are of medieval date.

The medieval period was represented by Phase 3 deposits. These comprised, pits, ditches and dumped deposits.

No evidence of the infrastructure of the site (i.e. roads, watercourses) was encountered. Likewise definitive evidence of structural remains were also absent. However, dumped deposits recorded towards the northwest extent of the site may be related to occupation and the activities carried out.

The blackish grey colouration and compaction of a spread of material in Plot 155 may indicate an activity or occupation surface. The limited excavation and extent of the layer that was exposed precludes stating unequivocally that this was a floor surface, however the possibility exists. The recovery of smithing slag and pottery in the vicinity may suggest an industrial function and the location of a workshop or workshops in this area. Given the amount of artefactual material recovered, structural remains and occupation is indicated in the vicinity and this area of the site provides the only possible evidence for this.

Midden and refuse pits were the most numerous features identified on the site. These were predominantly located towards the southern edge of the development (Fig.5). This geographical dichotomy between the northern and southern halves of the site is of interest and may suggest a habitational function for the northern area with refuse disposal occurring in the south.

Ditches identified during the investigation were oriented both east-west and north-south. A large ditch identified in Plot 152 may indicate the northern boundary to the site, whilst the undated, though probably medieval ditch in Plot 145 and a medieval ditch in Plot 151 may give indication of the eastern extent. A ditch identified during an earlier phase of the development (Fig. 5) perhaps defines a southern extent. The ditches can be interpreted as broadly

defining an area in which activity was confined.

The nature of any such activity may be evidenced from the artefactual remains. Industrial activity, in the form of iron smithing, was carried out in the vicinity. Though a limited assemblage, smithing slag was recovered from pits, together with vitrified hearth lining and fired clays. This would strongly suggest the presence of a smithy in the immediate vicinity and the area identified in Plot 155 is the most likely candidate for its location.

The pottery recovered from the site is primarily domestic in nature and would also suggest occupation in the vicinity. Likewise, faunal remains indicate exploitation of marine resources in the form of fish and molluscs together with mammals, utilising the full range of resources available.

Notably, the ceramic evidence is chiefly of 12th – 14th century date and attests to the most likely period for occupation of the site during the medieval period.

Moreover, previous investigations to the south of the development area on King John's Road (Fig.5) suggested the site was on the medieval settlement fringe. A series of ditches may indicate agricultural land to the south, with the current investigation area being a location for industrial activity outside of the village core.

A single sherd of Late Saxon pottery was recovered during the watching brief. The general lack of early material suggests that the sherd may be residual or that remains of earlier periods may not have been disturbed by the development, or lie buried under alluvial deposits.

There is also a lack of artefactual material of 15th century date, which may suggest abandonment of the site at this time. Activity appears to resume around the 16th

century and is represented by Phase 4 post-medieval deposits. Three probable refuse pits were identified containing post-medieval ceramic. However a reworked and probably transformed (due to the leaching of mineral and nutrients) subsoil layer was identified containing pottery of both medieval and post-medieval date. This possibly represents a plough soil, suggesting arable use of the land during the post-medieval era. However, transformation of the soil may mask features which were cut into the subsoil and are now no longer visible. Furthermore, 15th century abandonment of the site may suggest formation of the subsoil during this period.

Abandonment of the site appears to occur again in the 17th century, with almost no artefactual evidence later than this date recovered. The lack of artefactual material, which may have derived from manuring, may suggest the land existed as pasture after this time.

The most recent, Phase 5 Modern deposits, comprised the topsoil and made ground related to the present development of the site.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken on land at Hall Drive, Swineshead, Lincolnshire, as the site is archaeologically sensitive, located near the core of the historic village.

Medieval industrial activity of 12th-14th century date was identified, in the form of iron smithing slag, and domestic occupation attested through the recovery of pottery and domestic faunal and molluscan refuse from midden and refuse pits. It is postulated that boundary ditches defined an area where occupation occurred, with the possible site of a workshop to the northwest of the site. It is

also proposed that the site lay on the fringe of what was the core of the medieval settlement at this time.

Abandonment of the site appears to occur in the 15th century, with the land given over to arable use until the end of the 17th century, from whence it may have existed as pasture.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr G Hibbert of Jelson Limited who commissioned the fieldwork and this report. Also Mr Dave Wilkinson of Jelson Limited for his assistance on site. The project was coordinated by Gary Taylor, who jointly edited this report with Tom Lane. The Boston Borough Community Archaeologist, Rebecca Wilcox, kindly allowed access to the relevant parish files.

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10. ABBREVIATIONS

APS	Archaeological Project Services
BGS	British Geological Survey
IFA	Institute of Field Archaeologists

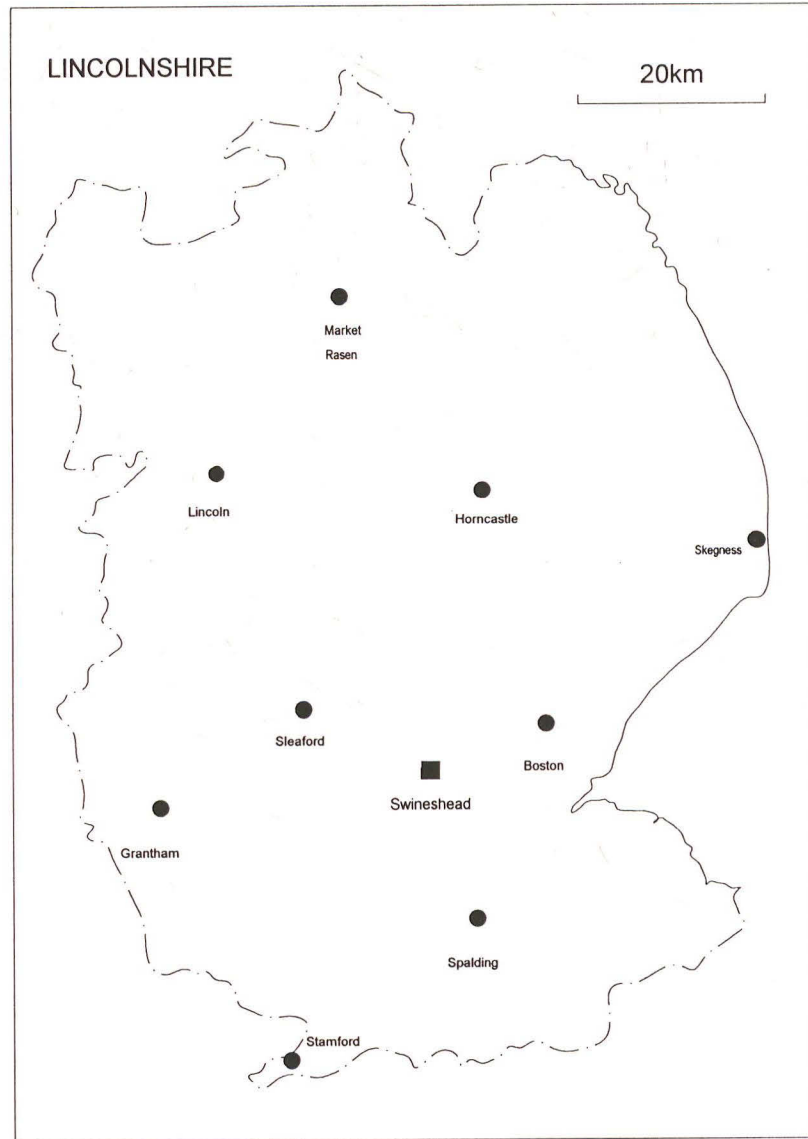
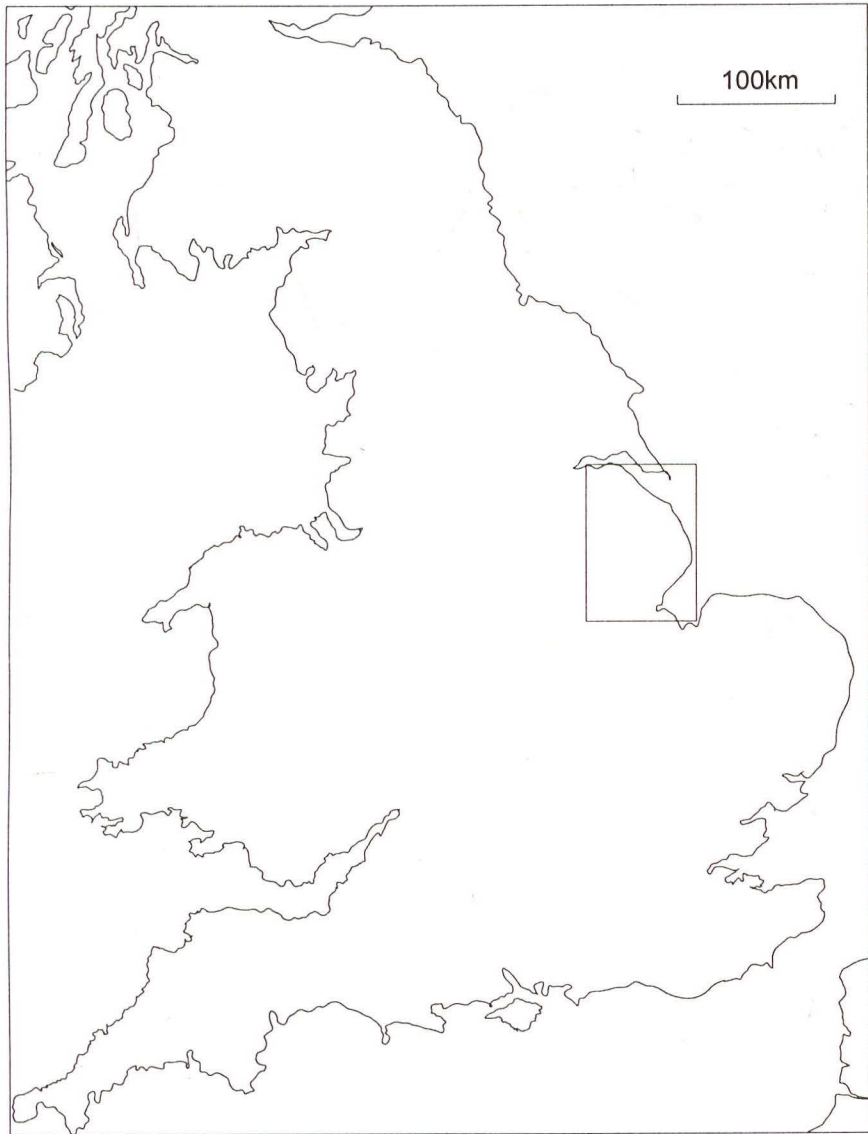


Figure 1 General Location Plan

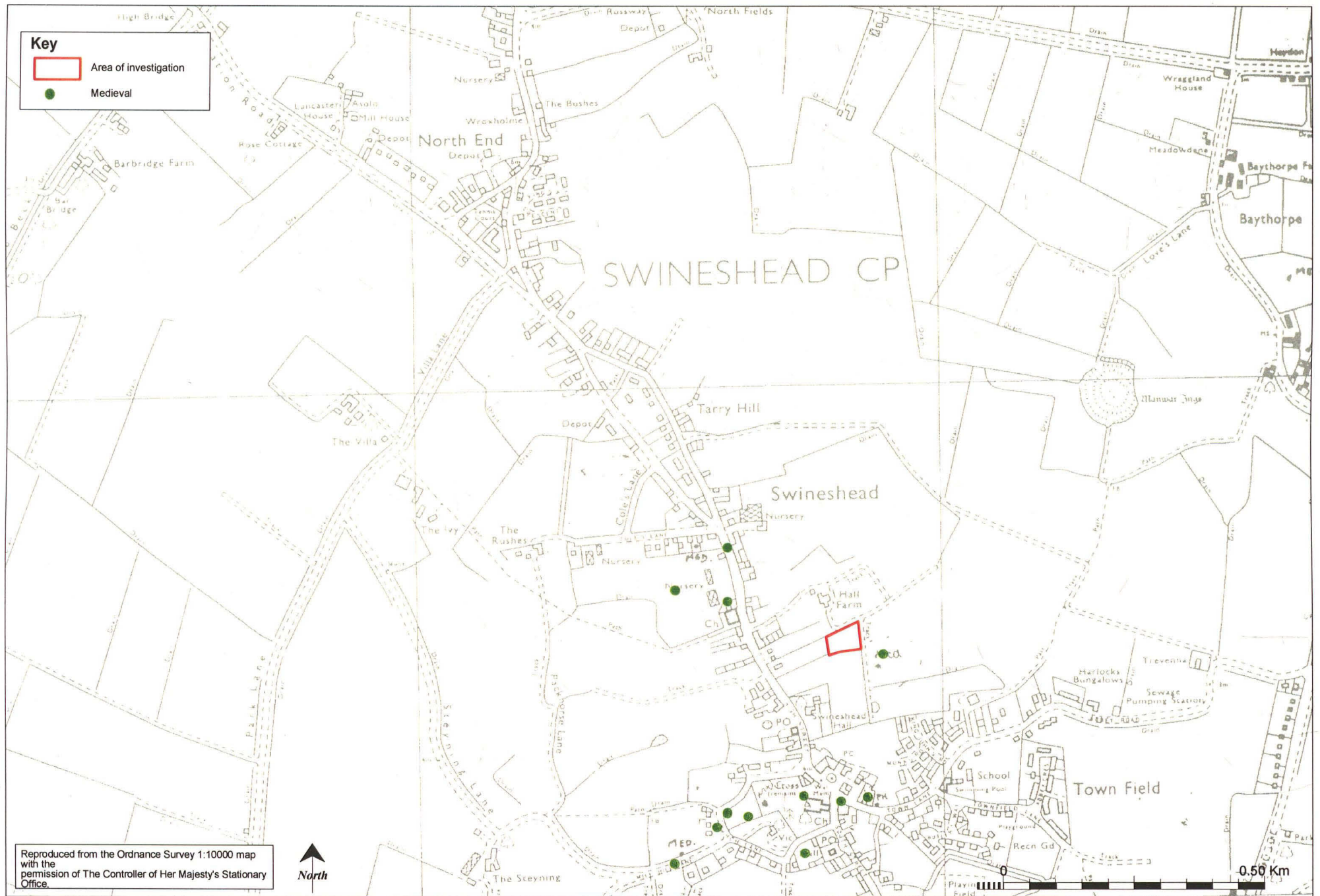


Figure 2 Site location and archaeological setting

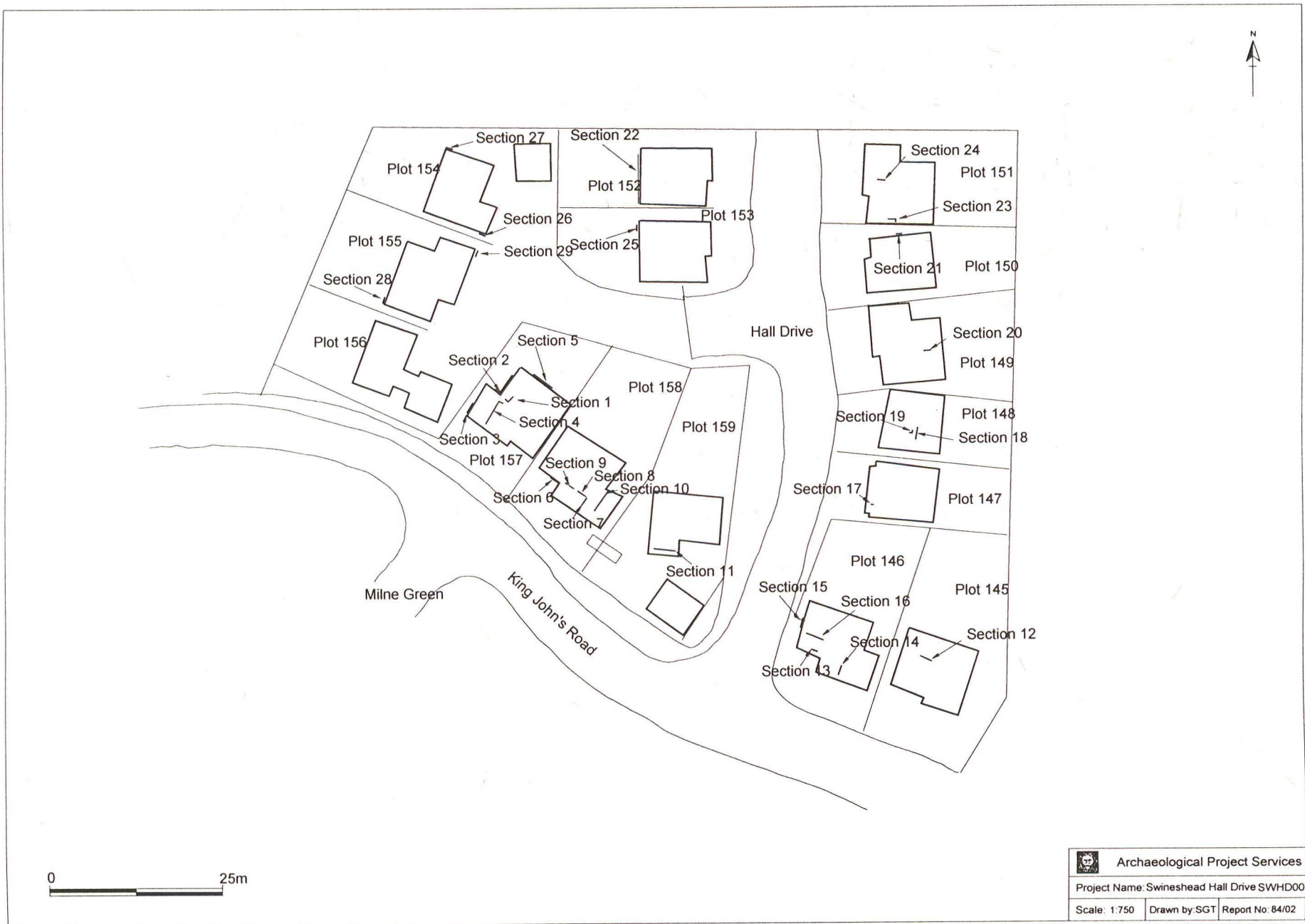


Figure 3 - Detailed site plan showing section locations

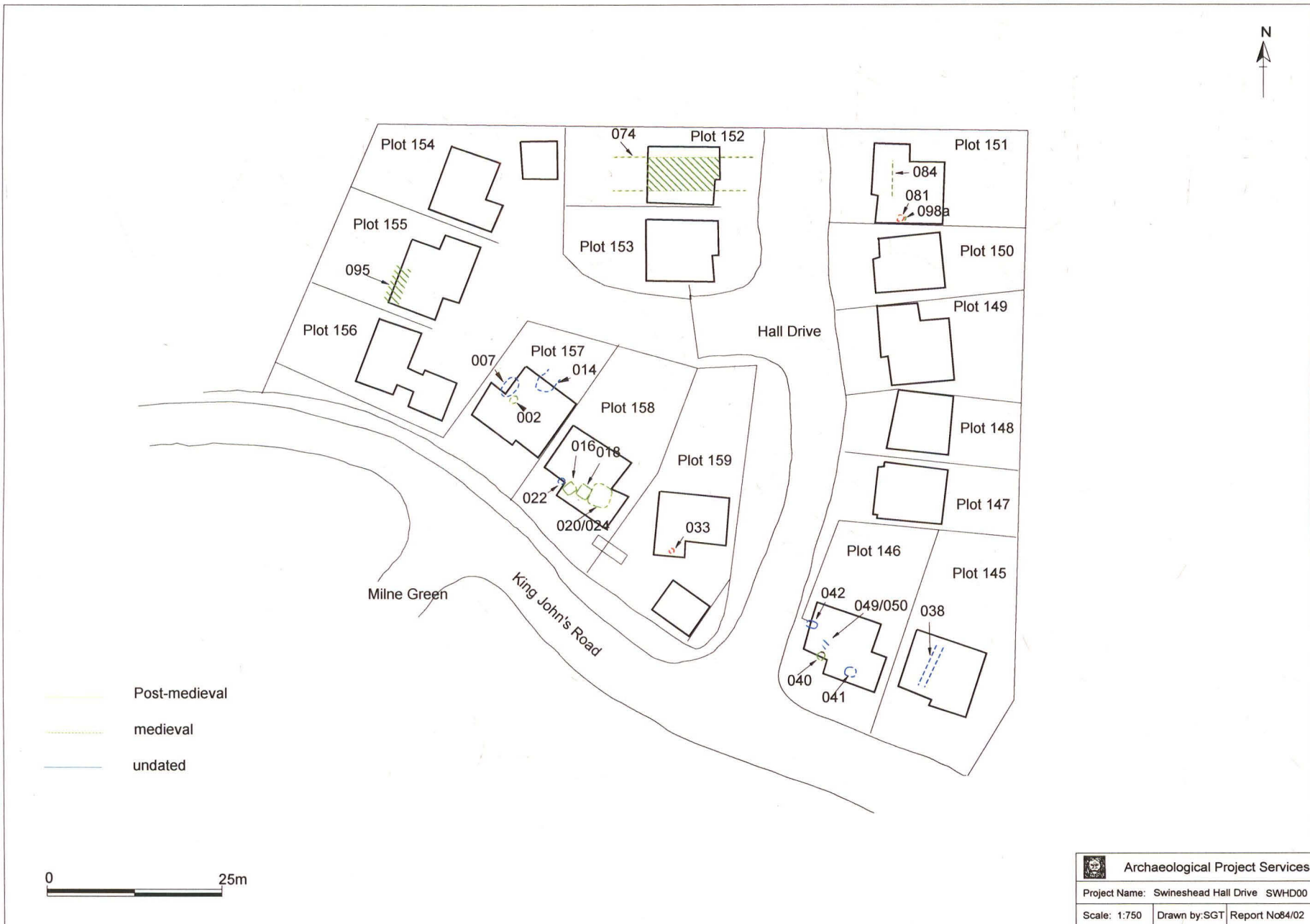


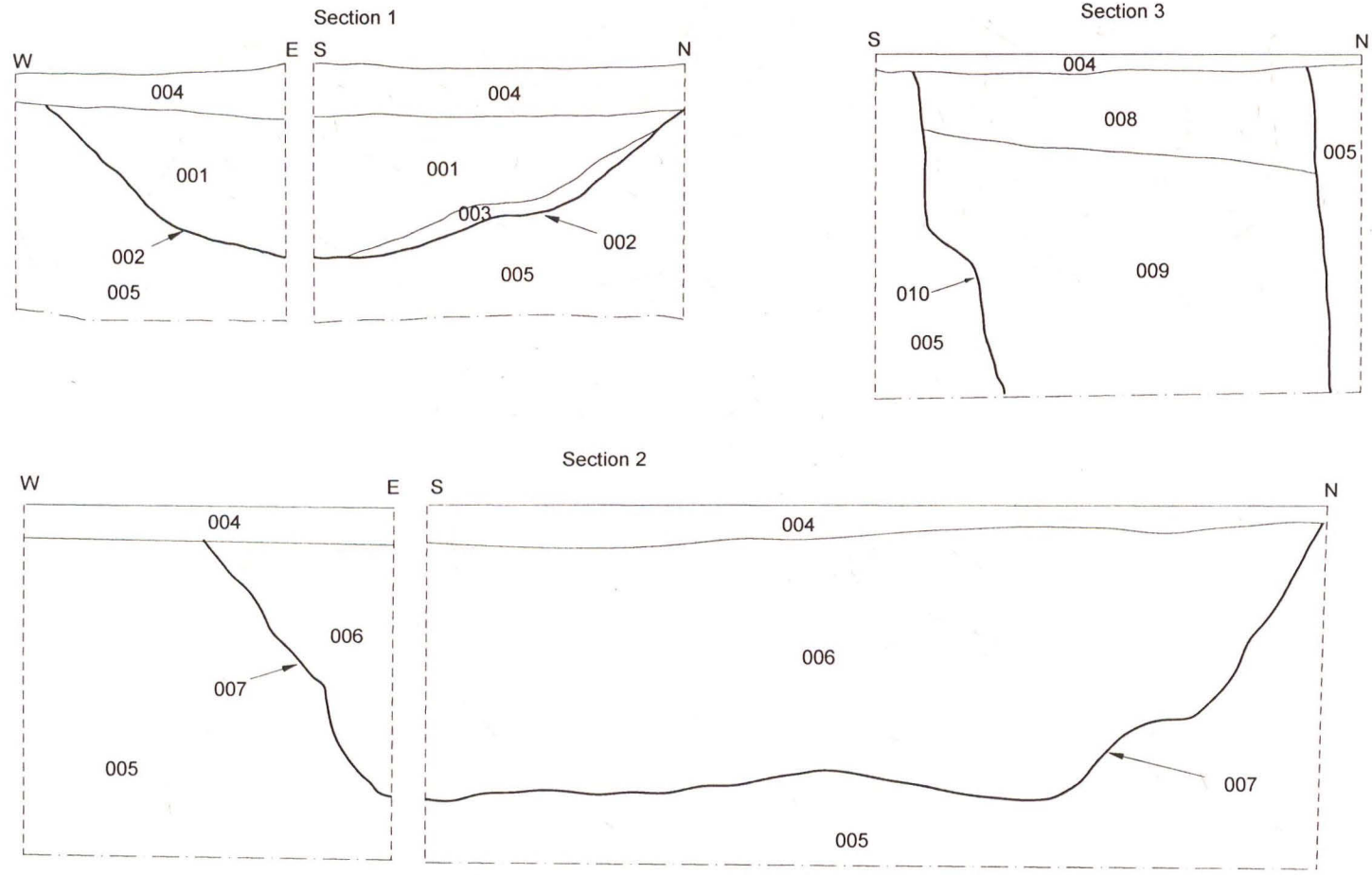
Figure 4 - Site plan showing archaeological features



Figure 5 - Feature locations incorporating data from 1997 watching brief on King John's Road



Figure 5a - Plan showing distribution of industrial residue, medieval and post-medieval pottery




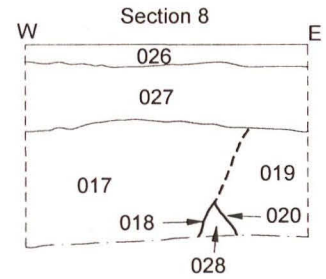
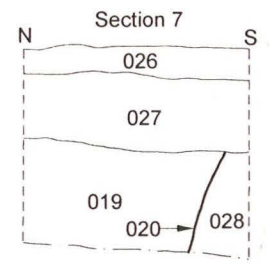
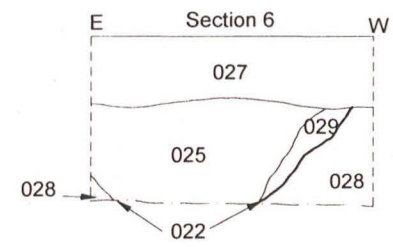
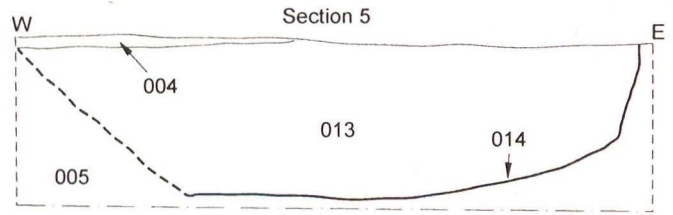
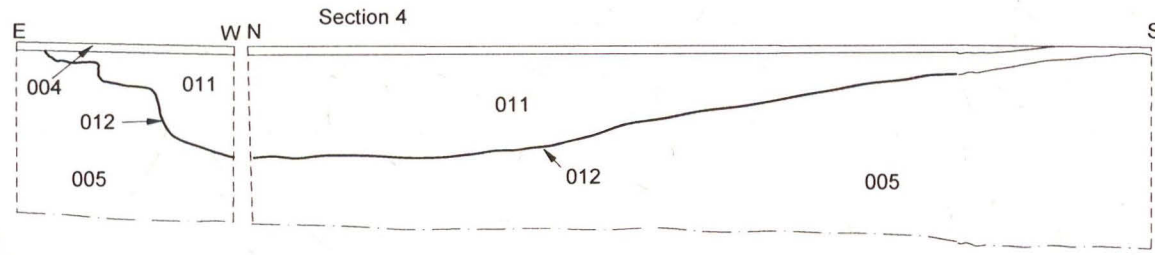
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Project Name: Swineshead Hall Drive SWHD00		
Scale: 1:25	Drawn by: SGT	Report No: 84/02

Figure 6 - Sections 1-3




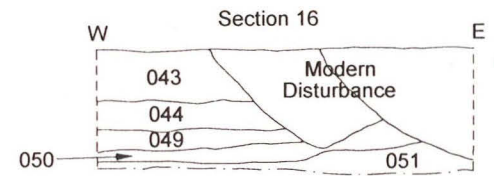
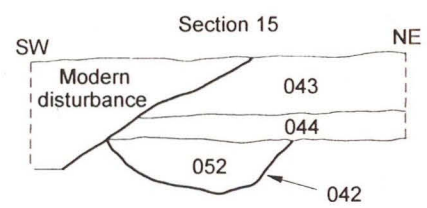
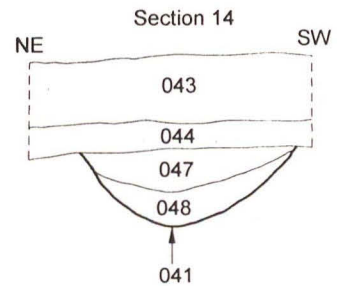
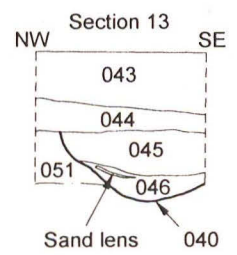
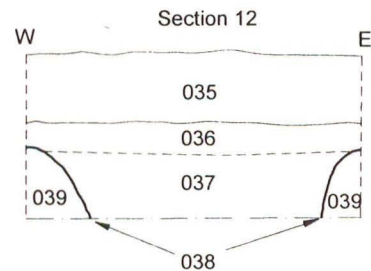
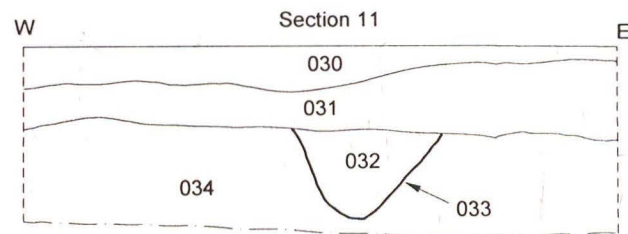
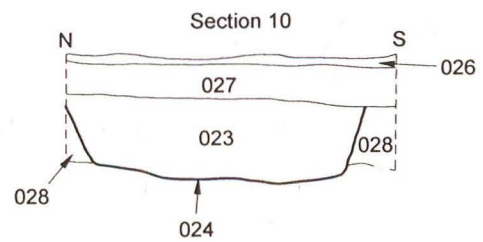
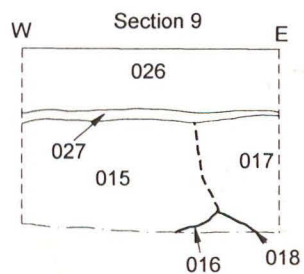
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Figure 7 - Sections 4-8




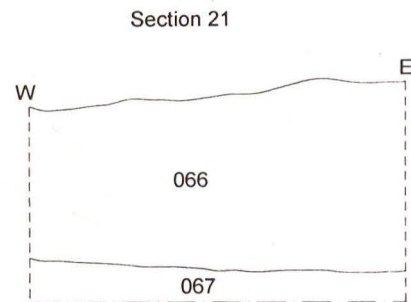
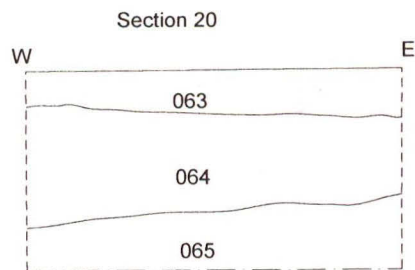
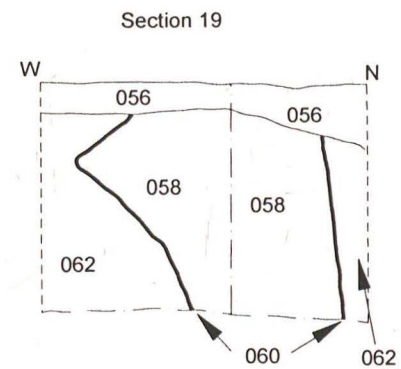
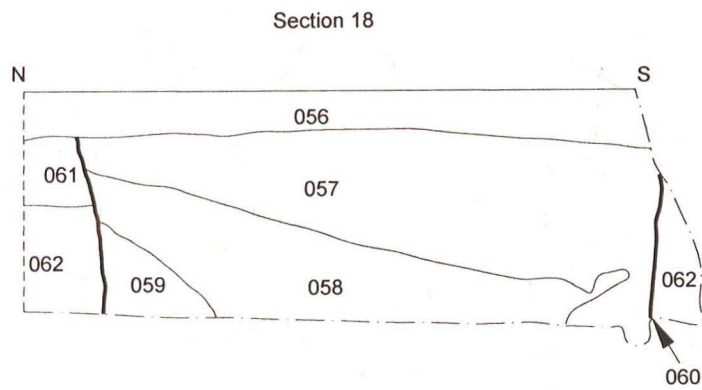
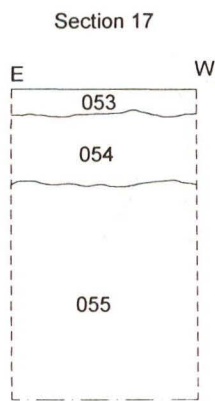
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Figure 8 - Sections 9-16



Archaeological Project Services

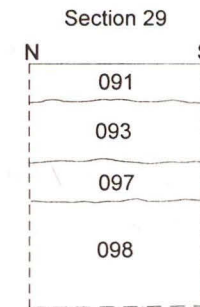
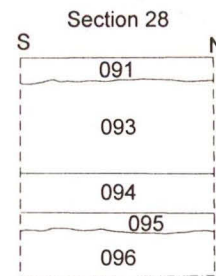
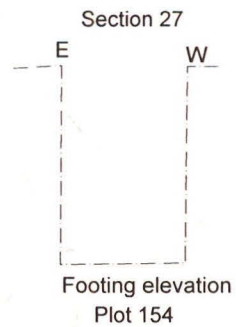
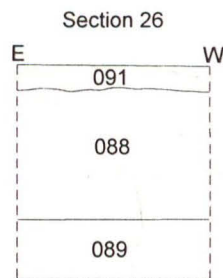
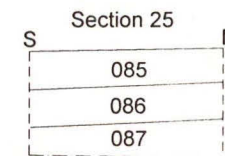
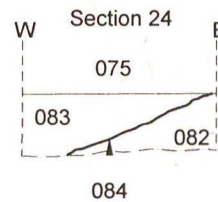
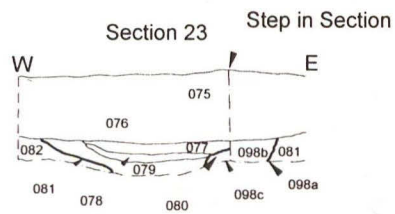
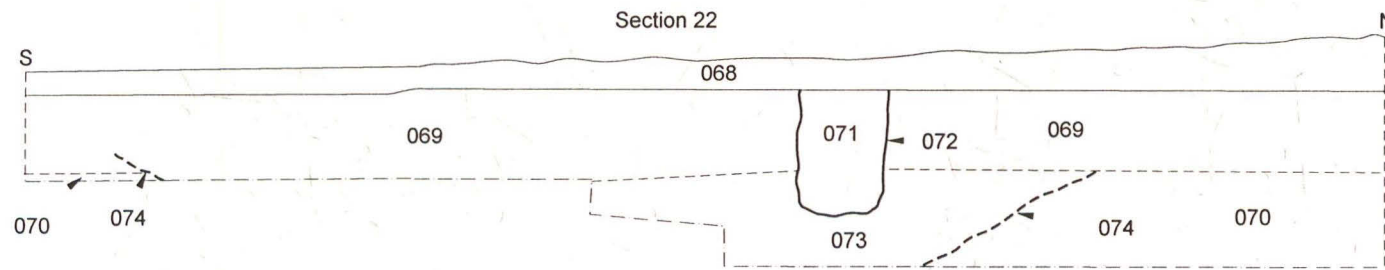
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Scale: 1:20

Drawn by: SGT

Report No: 84/02

Figure 9 - Sections 17-21




 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Swineshead Hall Drive SWHD00		
Scale: 1:40	Drawn by SGT	Report No: 84/02

Figure 10 - Sections 22-29

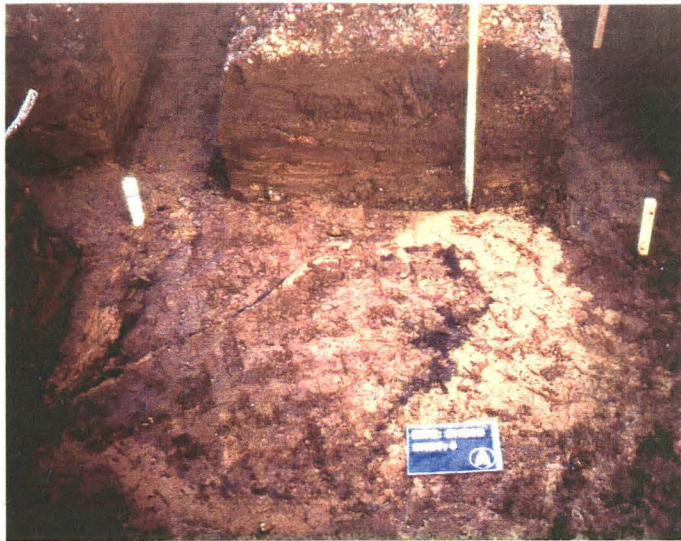


Plate 1 Plot 158, Pit 016,
looking north



Plate 2 Plot 158, Pit 022,
looking south

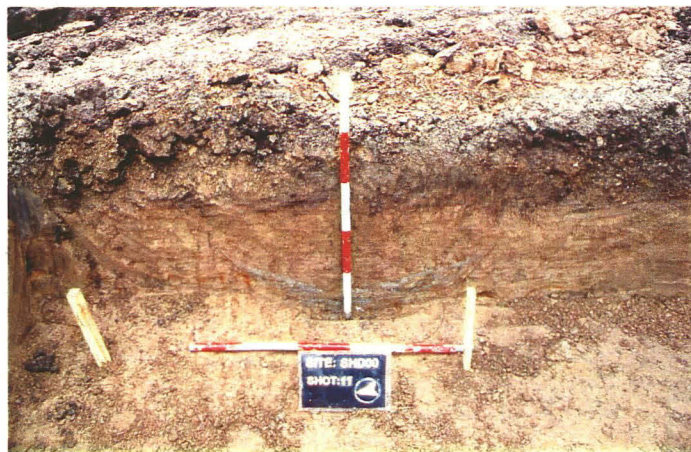


Plate 3 Plot 146, Pit 040,
looking east



Plate 4 Plot 152, Ditch 074,
looking northwest

Appendix 1

**LAND OFF
HIGH STREET,
SWINESHEAD,
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**SPECIFICATION FOR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**PREPARED FOR
JELSON LTD**

**BY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES
Institute of Field Archaeologists'
Registered Organisation No. 21**

DECEMBER 2000

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *A watching brief is required during development works at land off High Street, Swineshead, Lincolnshire.*
- 1.2 *The area is archaeologically sensitive, located close to the medieval village core. Medieval ditches and pits have previously been found immediately to the south.*
- 1.3 *The watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. The archaeological features exposed will be recorded in writing, graphically and photographically.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the investigation. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for an archaeological watching brief during groundworks connected with residential development of land off High Street, Swineshead, Lincolnshire, National Grid Reference TF 240 404.
- 2.2 This document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview.
 - 2.2.2 Stages of work and methodologies.
 - 2.2.3 List of specialists.
 - 2.2.4 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 Swineshead is located approximately 45km southeast of Lincoln in the administrative district of Boston Borough, Lincolnshire. The site is on the eastern side of High Street, just northeast of Swineshead Hall and approximately 200m north of St. Mary's Church, at National Grid Reference TF 240 404.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (B/00/0528/00) was submitted to Boston Borough Council for residential development of the site. This is a variation of an earlier application (B19/0340/96) which had an archaeological watching brief condition. Permission has been granted subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during groundworks.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 The area surrounding the site is relatively flat and lies at approximately 6m OD. Local soils are alluvial gleys of the Agney Association developed on marine alluvium.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 No finds of Roman or prehistoric material have been made from the immediate vicinity, however finds of these dates are common in the general area.
- 6.2 During the medieval period Swineshead was an important settlement, established on the navigable River Swin. The settlement is first mentioned shortly after 650 AD, and indicates that a monastery was present at Swineshead. In the Domesday Book, Swineshead itself is not mentioned but the settlements of Stenning and Drayton, both within the parish, are referred to. By the end of the medieval period Swineshead had become a wealthy parish with a market held on each thursday.
- 6.3 The medieval core of the village is likely to have been centred around the parish church of St. Mary's. To the east of the church is the 14th century Stump cross, a scheduled ancient monument (SAM 22666). Medieval pottery has been found both to the east and west of the church. Located to the southeast of the site is the deserted medieval village of *Estovening*.
- 6.4 Previous investigations immediately south of the present area, and part of the same development, revealed numerous medieval ditches and several pits of the period. A moderate quantity of artefacts of the Saxo-Norman and medieval periods was recovered and suggests that the site is at the fringe of the medieval settlement (Archaeological Project Services 2000).

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the watching brief will be:
 - 7.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the excavation of the foundation trenches and other areas of ground disturbance.
- 7.2 The objectives of the watching brief will be to:
 - 7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
 - 7.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8 SITE OPERATIONS

- 8.1 General considerations
 - 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
 - 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). Archaeological Project Services is IFA registered organisation no. 21.
 - 8.1.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

8.2 Methodology

- 8.2.1 The watching brief will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development, and includes the archaeological monitoring of all phases of soil movement.
- 8.2.2 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
- 8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
 - 8.2.4.1 the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
 - 8.2.4.2 groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located they will be left *in situ* and only excavated if absolutely necessary. Should removal be required the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before the exhumation of the remains. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department, coroner and the police will be informed, where appropriate.

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

- 9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- 9.1.2 All finds recovered during the field work will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

9.2 Stage 2

- 9.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.
- 9.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

9.3 Stage 3

9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.

9.3.2 This will consist of:

9.3.2.1 A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.

9.3.2.2 A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.

9.3.2.3 Description of the topography of the site.

9.3.2.4 Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.

9.3.2.5 A text describing the findings of the watching brief.

9.3.2.6 A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.

9.3.2.7 Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.

9.3.2.8 Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.

9.3.2.9 Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.

9.3.2.10 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.

9.3.2.11 Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 **REPORT DEPOSITION**

10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the client; the Boston Community Archaeologist; Boston Borough Council Planning Department; and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record.

11 **ARCHIVE**

11.1 The documentation and records generated during the watching brief will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the City and County Museum, Lincoln. This will be undertaken following the requirements of the document titled Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives for long term storage and curation.

12 **PUBLICATION**

12.1 A report of the findings of the watching brief will be presented to the editor of the journal *Lincolnshire History and Archaeology*. If appropriate, notes on the findings will be submitted to the appropriate national journals: *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date, and *Medieval*

Archaeology and the *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for findings of medieval or later date.

13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- 13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Boston Community Archaeologist. They will be given seven days notice in writing before the commencement of the project.

14 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

- 14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 14.2 In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the archaeological curator (*Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* 1998, Sections 5.7 and 18).
- 14.3 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.
- 14.4 Any contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or post-excavation analysis outside the scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the archaeological curator and the client.

15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 15.1 The watching brief will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.
- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work.
- 15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post- excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about four days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

- 16.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum,

Lincoln

Pottery Analysis

Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust

Roman - B Precious, Independent Specialist

Anglo-Saxon - J Young, Independent Specialist

Medieval and later - H Healey, Independent Archaeologist

Non-pottery Artefacts

J Cowgill, Independent Specialist

Animal Bones

Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

Environmental Analysis

Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

Human Remains Analysis

R Gowland, Independent Specialist

17 INSURANCES

17.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability Insurance of £10,000,000, together with Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied on request.

18 COPYRIGHT

18.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

18.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.

18.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and may result in legal action.

18.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

19 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Archaeological Project Services, 2000 *Archaeological Watching Brief on land off King John's Road, Swineshead*,

SPECIFICATION FOR WATCHING BRIEF AT HIGH STREET, SWINESHEAD

Boston District, Lincolnshire (SKJ97), unpublished APS Report No: 101/00

Hodge, CAH, Burton, RGO, Corbett, WM, Evans, R, and Seale, RS, 1984 *Soils and their use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales 13

Specification: Version 1, 04-12-00

Appendix 2

Context summary

Context No.	Plot	Plan	Section	Description	Interpretation
001	157	-	1	Soft, mid-grey silty sand, 0.49m thick containing occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of 002
002	157	-	1	Indeterminately shaped cut, 0.49m deep, gradually sloping sides, concave base	Pit
003	157	-	1	Soft, light bluish grey silty sand, 80mm thick	Fill of 002
004	157	-	1	Friable, dark greyish brown silt containing frequent mussel shell, 0.18m thick	Topsoil
005	157	-	1	Soft, mid-brownish yellow, sand, >0.72m thick	Alluvial deposit
006	157	-	2	Soft, mid-dark grey silty sand containing moderate mussel shell, 0.76m thick max.	Fill of 007
007	157	-	2	Indeterminately shaped cut, 0.76m deep, >2.6m wide, gradually sloping sides, flattened base	Pit
008	157	-	3	Soft, dark reddish brown silty sand, 0.36m thick	Fill of 010
009	157	-	3	Soft, mid-red silty clay containing frequent charcoal fragments, 0.85m thick max.	Fill of 010
010	157	-	3	Indeterminately shaped cut, 1.4m wide x 1.08m deep, near vertical sides, flattened base	Pit
011	157	-	4	Soft, mid-dark grey silty sand containing moderate charcoal flecks, 0.56m thick max.	Fill of 012
012	157	-	4	Indeterminate shaped feature, >5m long, 0.56m deep	Probable natural hollow
013	157	-	5	Soft, mid-grey silty sand, 0.84m thick max.	Fill of 014
014	157	-	5	Indeterminately shaped cut, 3.3m wide, 0.84m deep, steep sides, concave base	Pit
015	158	1	9	Soft light brown clayey silt containing occasional shell fragments,	Fill of 016

				frequent charcoal fragments and occasional angular stones, 0.60m thick	
016	158	1	9	Rectangular cut, 1.5m x 1.4m x 0.60m, steeply sloping sides, NNE-SSW orientation	Midden pit
017	158	1	8,9	Soft, light brown clayey silt, containing frequent charcoal fragments, occasional mussel shell, gravel and patches of burnt soil	Fill of 018
018	158	1	8,9	Rectangular cut, 2m x 1.8m x 0.62m deep, steep, slightly concave sides, E-W orientation	Midden pit
019	158	1	7,8	Loose, mid-brown clayey silt, containing frequent charcoal fragments, occasional shell fragments and gravel	Fill of 020
020	158	1	8,9	Probable ovoid cut, 1.05m long x 0.50m deep x 0.30m wide, Steeply sloping sides, N-S orientation	Midden pit
021	158	-	-	Unstratified finds	Finds
022	158	1	5	Semi-circular, partially exposed cut, c. 1.35m diameter, gradually sloping sides	Midden pit
023	158	1	10	Loose, dark grey clayey silt containing frequent shell and charcoal fragments	Fill of 024
024	158	1	10	Sub-circular cut, 3.08m x 0.88m x >0.65m, steeply sloping sides	Midden pit
025	158	1	6	Firm, light greyish brown clayey silt containing occasional charcoal fragments and gravel and frequent shell fragments	Fill of 022
026	158	-	7,8,9,10	Compact brown gravel and silts, 0.35m thick	Made ground
027	158	-	6,7,8,9,10	Firm, mid-brown silt containing occasional small stones and charcoal fragments, 0.40m thick	Subsoil
028	158	1	6,7,8,9,10	Soft, light yellowish brown silt, > 0.56m thick	Alluvial deposit
029	158	-	6	Soft, mottled brown and light yellowish brown containing occasional charcoal and shell fragments	Fill of 022
030	159	-	11	Compact brown gravel and silts, 0.35m thick	Made ground
031	159	-	11	Firm, mid-brown silt containing occasional small stones and charcoal fragments, 0.40m thick	Subsoil
032	159	-	11	Firm, brown clayey silt containing occasional tiny fired clay	Fill of 033

				fragments, shell and charcoal fragments	
033	159	-	11	Indeterminately shaped cut, 0.73m wide x 0.46m deep, steeply sloping sides, concave base	Probable pit
034	159	-	11	Soft, light yellowish brown silt, > 0.56m thick	Alluvial deposit
035	145	-	12	Moderately compact, dark brown silt, 0.40m thick	Topsoil
036	145	-	12	Moderately compact mid brown silt, 0.14m thick	Subsoil
037	145	-	12	Moderately compact mid-greyish brown silt containing occasional small stones and shells	Fill of 038
038	145	-	12	Linear feature, 1.6m wide, >11m long and 0.4m deep. Steep sides, N-S orientation	Probable ditch
039	145	-	12	Mid-greyish brown to yellow brown silt, >0.42m thick	Alluvial deposit
040	146	3	13	Sub-circular cut, 0.78m diameter, 0.38m deep gradually sloping sides	Midden pit
041	146	3	14	Sub-circular cut, 1.11m diameter, 0.41m deep, gradually sloping sides, concave base	Midden pit
042	146	3	15	Sub-circular cut, 1m diameter, 0.28m deep gradually sloping sides, concave base	Midden pit
043	146	-	13,14,15,16	Soft, dark brown silty sand, 0.35m thick	Topsoil
044	146	-	13,14,15,16	Soft, mid-reddish brown silty sand, 0.25m thick	Subsoil
045	146	-	13	Soft, mottled reddish brown silty sand containing occasional charcoal fragments	Fill of 040
046	146	-	13	Soft, bluish grey silty sand containing occasional charcoal and shell fragments, humic lenses	Fill of 040
047	146	-	14	Soft, mottled mid-reddish brown silty sand	Fill of 041
048	146	-	-	Soft, mottled blue-grey and brown silty sand containing shell and charcoal fragments	Fill of 041
049	146	3	16	Soft, mid-brown with reddish mottling, silty sand, 0.10m thick x 3m E-W	Refuse spread
050	146	3	16	Soft, dark grey to mid brown silty sand containing occasional shell and charcoal fragments, 0.10m thick x 3m E-W	Refuse spread

051	146	3	16	Soft, yellow-grey sand	Alluvial deposit
052	146	-	15	Soft, dark brown silty sand containing frequent shell and occasional charcoal fragments	Fill of 042
053	147	-	17	Friable, dark brown silt, 70mm thick	Topsoil
054	147	-	17	Moderately compact mid-brown and yellowish brown sand and silt, 0.19m thick	Subsoil
055	147	-	17	Soft, mid-yellowish brown sands and silts, >0.57m thick	Alluvial deposit
056	148	-	18,19	Friable, mid-greyish brown sandy silt, 0.18m thick	Topsoil
057	148	-	18	Loose, mixed greyish brown and mid-yellow silts and sand containing occasional stones, 0.48m thick	Fill of 060
058	148	-	18,19	Loose, dark brown to greyish brown sandy silt containing occasional stones, charcoal and shell, 0.3m thick	Fill of 060
059	148	-	18	Loose, mid-brown and yellow brown silt and sandy silt, 0.25m thick	Fill of 060
060	148	-	18,19	Indeterminately shaped cut, 1.52m N-S x 0.8m E-W, near vertical sides	Pit
061	148	-	18	Loose, light-mid yellowish brown silt, 0.17m thick	Subsoil
062	148	-	18,19	Soft, light yellow sit and sands, >0.52m thick	Alluvial deposit
063	149	-	20	Friable, dark greyish brown sandy silt, 100mm thick	Topsoil
064	149	-	20	Loose, mid-yellowish brown silt, undulating up to 0.30m thick	Subsoil
065	149	-	20	Soft, light yellow sand and silt, >0.40m thick	Alluvial deposit
066	150	-	21	Loose, dark brown sandy silt containing occasional shell fragments	Subsoil
067	150	-	21	Soft, light yellow sands and silt, >0.3m thick	Alluvial deposit
068	152	-	22	Firm, dark brown silt, 0.30m thick	Topsoil
069	152	-	22	Soft, mid-brown silt, 0.42m thick	Subsoil
070	152	-	22	Soft, light brown silt	Alluvial deposit
071	152	-	22	Soft, dark brown silt	Fill of 072
072	152	-	22	Linear cut, 0.40m wide, 0.5m deep >11m long	Drain cut
073	152	-	22	Soft, mid-brown silt	Fill of 074
074	152	-	22	Linear cut, 4.1m wide >0.6m deep >11m long, E-W orientation	Ditch
075	151	-	23	Crushed stone	Made ground

076	151	-	23,24	Friable, dark brown silt containing occasional charcoal and small pebbles	Topsoil
077	151	-	23	Mid-yellowish brown silt containing occasional charcoal and shell fragments	Subsoil
078	151	-	23	Mid-reddish brown silt containing moderate charcoal and shell fragments	Fill of 081
079	151	-	23	Loose, mid-yellowish brown an orangey brown silt containing moderate shell, charcoal and occasional burnt soil patches	Fill of 081
080	151	-	23	Firm, mid-yellowish brown silts and sand containing occasional charcoal fragments an burnt soil	Fill of 081
081	151	-	23	Indeterminately shaped cut, 1.5m E-W x 0.5m N-S x 0.2m deep, NW-SE orientation	Pit
082	151	-	23,24	Soft, mid-yellowish brown fine sands and silts	Alluvial deposit
083	151	-	24	Loose, mid-dark brown silt containing occasional charcoal and shell fragments and flint gravel	Fill of 084
084	151	-	24	Linear cut, 3m E-W, 3.5m N-S, N-S orientation, gradually sloping sides	Probable ditch
085	153	-	25	Friable, dark brown silt, 0.20m thick	Topsoil
086	153	-	25	Firm, mid-yellowish brown silt, 0.20m thick	Subsoil
087	153	-	25	Soft, mid-yellowish brown silts and fine sands, > 0.20m thick	Alluvial deposit
088	154	-	26	Loose, mid-reddish brown clayey silt containing occasional charcoal, 0.65m thick	?reworked subsoil
089	154	-	26	Firm, light yellowish brown silt, >0.30m thick	Alluvial deposit
090	154	-	-	Unstratified finds	Finds
091	154/155	-	26,28,29	Dark reddish brown silt containing occasional charcoal fragments, 0.20m thick	Topsoil
092	155	-	-	Unstratified finds	Finds
093	155	-	28	Firm mid-reddish brown clayey silt containing occasional charcoal fragments, 0.50m thick	?reworked subsoil
094	155	-	28	Firm, mottled light reddish brown clayey silt containing occasional	Possible occupation

				charcoal fragments, 10m N-S x 1.5m E-W	layer or dumped deposit
095	155	-	28	Firm, dark greyish black silt containing frequent cockle shells, 100mm thick x 5.6m N-S x 1m E-W	Possible occupation layer or dumped deposit
096	155	-	28	Firm light grey silt containing occasional charcoal fragments, 10m N-S x 1.5m E-W x 0.20m thick	Possible occupation layer or dumped deposit
097	155	-	28	Firm mid-reddish brown silt, 0.20m thick	Possible occupation layer or dumped deposits
098	155	-	28	Firm, light yellowish brown silt > 0.52m thick	Alluvial deposit
098a	151	-	23	Indeterminate shaped cut, 0.40m E-W x 0.22m deep min. Steeply sloping E-Side. Truncated by 081	Probable pit
098b	151	-	23	Mid-yellowish brown silt containing occasional charcoal and shell fragments	Fill of 098a
098c	151	-	23	Mid-yellowish brown silt containing occasional charcoal and shell fragments	Fill of 098a

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

by Paul Cope-Faulkner, Rachael Hall,
Hilary Healey, Tom Lane and Gary Taylor

Recording of the pottery was undertaken with reference to guidelines prepared by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (Slowikowski *et al.* 2001) and the pottery was quantified using the chronology and coding system of the Lincolnshire ceramic type series. A total of 55 fragments of pottery, representing a maximum of 50 vessels and weighing 994g, was recovered from 23 separate contexts. In addition to the pottery, other artefacts, predominantly industrial residue and ceramic building materials, comprising 39 items weighing a total of 863g, was retrieved. Faunal remains were also recovered.

Provenance

The material was recovered from pit fills (001, 008, 009, 015, 017, 019, 023, 032, 046, 058, 078, 079, 080), topsoil (053), subsoil (036, 064, 069, 088, 093), dumped deposits (095, 097), the fill of a hollow (011), ditch fills (037, 073, 084) and as unstratified finds (021, 090, 092).

Most of the pottery was made in moderate proximity to Swineshead, at Bourne 25km to the southwest, and elsewhere in Lincolnshire, including Toynton All Saints, Stamford, Potterhanworth and Lincoln.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

A single sherd of Late Saxon pottery and Saxo-Norman pottery, 9th-12th century date, is the earliest material recovered and provides about 15% of the pottery assemblage. However, the remainder and bulk of the assemblage (over 60%) is slightly later, dating from the 12th to 14th century.

Table 1: Pottery

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
001	ST	Stamford ware, 1 glazed, both sooted externally, separate vessels	2	23	11 th -12 th century
008	BOU	Bourne D ware, sub-standard	1	24	16 th -17 th century
011	SLST	South Lincs. Shelly ware, 12 th -14 th century	1	3	12 th -13 th century
	DST	Developed Stamford ware, mid 12 th -early 13 th century	1	5	
015	ST	Stamford ware, glazed, 11 th -12 th century	1	2	12 th -14 th century
	DST	Developed Stamford ware, mid 12 th -early 13 th century	1	2	
	BOUA	Bourne A/B ware, including jugs and cooking pots, 3 sooted externally, 12 th -14 th century	7 (2 link)	100	
017	?LSW1/2	?Lincoln ware, 12 th -14 th century	1	4	12 th -14 th century
	BOUA	Bourne B ware cooking pot, 12 th -14 th century	1	19	
019	ST	Stamford ware, 9 th -12 th century	1	3	12 th -14 th century
	BOUA	Bourne A/B ware, sooted externally, 12 th -14 th century	1	7	
023	BOUA	Bourne A ware, sooted externally, 12 th -14 th century	1	18	13 th -14 th century

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
	BOUA	Bourne A/B ware, 1 sooted externally, 1 abraded, 2 sooted/burnt on broken edges, 12 th -14 th century	3	93	
	TOY	Toynton All Saints-type ware, jug, 13 th -15 th century	1	28	
032	BOU	Bourne D ware, abraded	1	5	16 th -17 th century
036	BOU	Bourne D ware	1	9	16 th -17 th century
046	LSMED	Late Saxon storage jar with applied strip decoration	1	21	9 th -11 th century
053	EMOD	?Mocha ware	1	4	19 th century
058	EMOD	White glazed tableware	1	1	19 th -20 th century
064	ST	Stamford ware, 9 th -12 th century	1	1	16 th -17 th century
	BOU	Bourne D ware, 16 th -17 th century	1	3	
069	BOUA	Bourne A/B ware, pancheon, separate vessels, 12 th -14 th century	2	46	12 th -14 th century
073	BOUA	Bourne A ware, 12 th -14 th century	1	3	12 th -14 th century
	BOUA	Bourne A/B ware, abraded, sooted externally, 12 th -14 th century	1	5	
078	BOU	Bourne D ware, abraded internally	2(link)	56	16 th -17 th century
080	BOUA	Bourne A/B ware	1	7	12 th -14 th century
083	TOY	Toynton All Saints ware	1	15	13 th -15 th century
088	BOU	Bourne D ware, 16 th -17 th century	1	2	16 th -17 th century
	BOUA	Bourne A/B ware, 12 th -14 th century	1	7	
090	GRE	Glazed red earthenware, handle, sooted, 17 th century	1	44	17 th century
	TOY	Toynton All Saints-type ware, including pancheon, 13 th -15 th century	3	238	
	BOUA	Bourne A/B ware, sooted externally, 12 th -14 th century	1	16	
	POTT	Potterhanworth ware, sooted externally, 13 th -14 th century	1	24	
	TOY	Toynton All Saints-type ware, jug, 13 th -15 th century	3(link)	24	
092	BOU	Bourne D ware, 16 th -17 th century	1	6	17 th century
	GRE	Glazed red earthenware, pancheon, 17 th century	1	67	
	BL	Blackware, ?cup, 17 th century	1	3	
093	BOUA	Bourne A ware	1	7	12 th -14 th century
095	ST	Stamford ware, glazed	2(link)	49	11 th -12 th century

A fragment of a Late Saxon storage jar was recovered from (046). This piece is broadly in the Torksey – Thetford

tradition of reduced, grey, wares, though the fabric has not been identified.

The ceramic assemblage is very similar in composition to that previously recovered on adjacent land at King John's Road, Swineshead. Bourne and Stamford wares, complemented by Toynton and Lincoln types were retrieved in the previous investigations, as in this monitoring. This suggests that the date ranges of the activity at, and the markets available to, the two adjacent sites is comparable. It is noticeable, however, that the current investigation has produced a significantly larger pottery assemblage, 55 pieces, than that recovered on the previous, adjacent monitoring when 19 fragments were collected (Cope-Faulkner *et al.* 2000).

Table 2: Other Artefacts

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
011	CBM	Brick/tile	1	15	
015	Iron	Nail, circular head 30mm across, broken shaft	1	18	
	Industrial residue	Vitrified hearth lining	2	10	
	Industrial residue	Glassy, vesicular slag	3	148	
	Industrial residue	Iron smithing slag	1	26	
017	Iron	Nail shaft, rectangular	1	6	
	Industrial residue	Iron slag, ?smithing	1	159	
	Industrial residue	Burnt clay, near vitrified on one side; hearth structure?	1	9	
019	Industrial residue	Iron smithing slag	2	58	
	CBM	Brick/tile/fired clay	1	3	
021	CBM	Tile, 20 th century	1	45	20 th century
	CBM	Tile, post-medieval	1	2	
023	Iron	Nail	1	7	
	Industrial residue	Iron smithing slag	6	126	
	CBM	Brick/tile/fired clay	2	48	
037	Industrial residue	Clinker	1	3	
046	CBM	Baked silt with wattle impressions	2	14	
079	Iron	Nails, rectangular section	3	24	
083	CBM	Fired clay	1	4	
088	Industrial residue	Iron smithing slag	1	15	
092	Glass	Melted	1	11	
093	CBM	Tile, oxidized throughout, 17mm thick	1	52	Post-medieval
095	Iron	Nail	1	12	
097	Industrial residue	Iron smithing slag	2	47	

A moderate quantity, 19 pieces, of smithing slag and vitrified hearth lining was recovered. This again concurs with the results of the adjacent investigation on King John's Road where a few pieces of this glassy slag was retrieved (Cope-Faulkner *et al.* 2000). The material indicates smithing in the vicinity, though the quantities involved suggested that the industrial debris was probably dumped at the site from a nearby smithy, rather than deriving from

technological activity on site.

Table 3: The Molluscs

Context	Species	Description	No.	Comments
015	Cockle	Shell	1	
	Oyster	Shell	1	
023	Cockle	Shells	2	
032	Oyster	Shell	1	
037	Mussel	Shell	1	Tiny fragment
	<i>Planorbis</i> sp.	Shells	3	Near-complete shells
064	Oyster	Shell	1	
077	Cockle	Shells	3	
	Oyster	Shells	1	
078	Mussel	Shells	2	
079	Cockle	Shells	3	
	Mussel	Shells	2	Fragments
	<i>Helix aspersa</i>	Shells	2	Complete shells
088	Cockle	Shell	1	Fragment
090	Cockle	Shell	1	

Most of the mollusc shells are from marine species used as food resources, cockle, mussel and oyster. There are also natural shells from two deposits. A group of three *planorbis* shells was recovered from (037). These are probably *Planorbis planorbis*, a ramshorn snail that inhabits hard water and is common in ponds and ditches throughout England (McMillan 1973, 110). These shells therefore provide an environmental indicator that denotes that deposit (037) was laid down in an area, such as a ditch or pond, that held fresh water. Two shells of *Helix aspersa*, the garden snail, were collected from (079). This is a terrestrial species but is synanthropic (often associated with man) and therefore does not provide a particularly useful environmental indicator (*ibid.*, 125).

Table 4: Animal Bone

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
009	unknown	unidentified	1	14	Calcined
013	cattle	Femur (head only)	1	306	
015	unknown	unidentified	4	12	
017	Sheep sized unknown	Rib	1	12	
		unidentified	2	4	
023	Cattle sized	Skull	3	48	
	Cattle	Calcaneus	1	34	
	cattle	Incisor	1	3	
	Sheep	Metatarsus	1	14	
	Sheep sized	?metatarsus	1	16	Shaft only
069	Cattle sized	Skull fragment	1	16	
079	Cattle	Mandible	1	178	
	Sheep	Mandible	1	10	
	Sheep sized	Rib	1	5	
	?bird	Unidentified	2	2	
	fish bones	Vertebra etc	7	1	?mackerel, cod
083	Cattle sized	Metatarsus (fragment of shaft)	2	52	Chalky
088	Sheep	Astragalus	1	16	
	sheep	metatarsus	1	6	

093	Cattle sized	scapula	3 (link)	40	
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Condition

All the material is in good condition and present no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class.

Documentation

There have been numerous previous archaeological investigations at Swineshead, including in immediate proximity to the current investigation. Additionally, examination of a nearby site yielded medieval pottery and other materials comparable with those from the current monitoring (Cope-Faulkner *et al.* 2000). Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the files of the Boston Community Archaeologist and the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

Almost all of the pottery is of medieval to early post-medieval date and, as such, is of moderate local potential and significance. This material indicates activity commencing in the Saxo-Norman period at the site or in close proximity. However, the nature of the activity is not clear, though the quantities of artefacts would suggest that the site was not occupied as such but probably adjacent to settlement. Iron smithing slag was found in this, as in the previous, investigation and implies the proximity of a smithy. However, the quantities of industrial debris are not great, which may imply that the smithy was not located in the investigation area but nearby. Such pyrotechnological processes are likely to have occurred on the settlement fringe, due to the risk from fire and other aspects.

It is noteworthy that this and the investigation on adjacent land at King John's Road, produced assemblages that were near-identical in nature, though differed in quantity. These two assemblages are mutually complementary in defining the dates and general nature of human activity in the area. The greater quantity of material from the current investigation would, however, suggest that this area is nearer to occupation of Saxo-Norman to early post-medieval date, or closer to refuse disposal areas of these periods.

The dearth of any material earlier than the 12th century is informative and suggests that archaeological deposits dating from this period and before do not occur in the area, or were not disturbed by the development. Similarly, the paucity of any artefacts later than the 17th century would tend to suggest that the site was abandoned at that time.

References

Cope-Faulkner, P., Healey, H. and Taylor, G., 2000 'The Finds', in J. Hambly, *Archaeological Watching Brief on land off King John's Road, Swineshead, Boston District, Lincolnshire (SKJ97)*, Archaeological Project Services Report No. 101/00

McMillan, N. F., 1973 *British Shells*

Slowikowski, A., Nenck, B. and Pearce, J., 2001 *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

Briquetage	A term given to fragments of ceramic equipment and hearth/oven remains from the processing of salt.
Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut), as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
Cropmark	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original cut is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Dumped deposits	These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be the result of casual waste disposal or may be deliberate attempts to raise the ground surface.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s), which become contained by the cut, are referred to as its fill(s).
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
Layer	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
Neolithic	The New Stone Age period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500-2250 BC.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1 st century AD.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saltern	Salt producing site typified by ash, derived from fuel needed to evaporate sea water, and briquetage.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.

Appendix 5

The Archive

The archive consists of:

- 101 Context records
- 22 Drawing sheets
- 13 Daily record sheets
- 5 Context record sheets
- 2 Section record sheets
- 1 Plan record sheet
- 2 Photographic record sheets
- 1 Stratigraphic matrix
- 2 Bags of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Sleaford
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Lincolnshire City and County Museum
12 Friars Lane
Lincoln
LN2 1HQ

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*, produced by the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.

Lincolnshire City and County Council Museum Accession Number: 2000.327

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SWHD00

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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